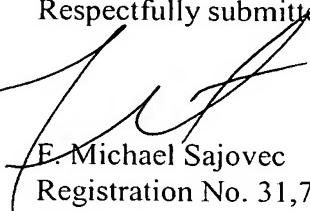


In re: Simmons et al.  
Serial No.: 10/601,241  
Filed: June 20, 2003  
Page 7 of 7

## REMARKS

The above claims have been amended to better conform to United States practice.

Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance and the same is respectfully requested. Any questions that the Examiner may have regarding this correspondence can be directed to the undersigned who may be reached at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
E. Michael Sajovec  
Registration No. 31,793

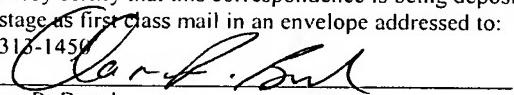


20792

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

### Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Clara R. Beard